IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT WESTERN DISTRICT OF ARKANSAS FAYETTEVILLE DIVISION

JILL DILLARD, JESSA SEEWALD, JINGER VUOLO, and JOY DUGGAR

PLAINTIFFS

DEFENDANTS

VS.

CASE NO. 5:17-5089-TLB

CITY OF SPRINGDALE, ARKANSAS;
WASHINGTON COUNTY, ARKANSAS;
KATHY O'KELLEY, in her individual and official capacities;
ERNEST CASE, in his individual and official capacities;
RICK HOYT, in his individual and official capacities;
STEVE ZEGA, in his official capacity;
BAUER PUBLISHING COMPANY, L.P.;
BAUER MAGAZINE, L.P.;
BAUER MEDIA GROUP, INC.;
BAUER, INC.;
HEINRICH BAUER NORTH AMERICA, INC.;
BAUER MEDIA GROUP USA, LLC; and
DOES 1-10, inclusive

<u>MOTION TO DISMISS</u> ITS CITY OF SPRINGDALE, ERI

OF SEPARATE DEFENDANTS CITY OF SPRINGDALE, ERNEST CATE, IN HIS INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITIES, AND KATHY O'KELLEY IN HER INDIVIDUAL AND OFFICIAL CAPACITIES,

COMES NOW the Separate Defendants, City of Springdale, Ernest Cate ("Cate"), in his individual and official capacities, and Kathy O'Kelley ("O'Kelley"), in her individual and official capacities (collectively referred to herein as the "Springdale Defendants"), by and through the undersigned attorneys, and for their Motion to Dismiss, state as follows:

1. That Plaintiffs filed an action in this Court on May 18, 2017, against, among others, the Springdale Defendants alleging the following six causes of action against the Springdale Defendants: 1) tort of invasion of privacy – public disclosure of private fact in violation of Arkansas law; 2) tort of invasion of privacy – intrusion upon seclusion in violation of Arkansas law; 3) tort of

outrage in violation of Arkansas law; 4) violation of Arkansas Constitution – due process; 5) violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983 – Fourteenth Amendment Due Process; and 6) violation of 42 U.S.C. § 1983 – *Monell*. These six causes of action alleged against the Springdale Defendants can generally be categorized as three tort claims and three constitutional claims.

- 2. That the Springdale Defendants move to dismiss all of the Plaintiffs' claims, as against them, in their entirety as a matter of law and pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6).
- 3. Plaintiffs' claims against Defendants Cate and O'Kelley individually should be dismissed with prejudice as a matter of law because Cate and O'Kelley individually, are entitled to qualified immunity.
- 4. Springdale Defendants are entitled to both statutory and qualified immunity from Plaintiffs' tort claims based on Ark. Code Ann. § 21-9-301(a) and Arkansas Supreme Court precedent.
- 5. Plaintiffs' claims against the City of Springdale under § 1983-Monell should be dismissed for failure to state a Constitutional violation.
- 6. Plaintiffs' tort claims should be dismissed because they have failed to allege intentional conduct requisite for intentional torts under Arkansas Law.
- 7. Pursuant to Rule 12(b)(6) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Plaintiffs have failed to state a claim upon which relief can be granted, therefore their Complaint should be dismissed.
- 8. Springdale Defendants reserve the right to raise all affirmative defenses available to them including but not limited to those found in Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 12(b) and 8(c).

WHEREFORE, Springdale Defendants pray that this Court dismiss Plaintiffs' Complaint

against the Springdale Defendants in its entirety, with prejudice, as a matter of law and pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(6), for it attorney's fees and costs, and any and all other relief this Court deems proper.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ R. Justin Eichmann

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COUNSEL FOR SPRINGDALE DEFENDANTS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, the undersigned, do hereby certify that on the 29th day of June, 2017, a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing Motion to Dismiss of Separate Defendants City of Springdale, Ernest Cate, in his individual and official capacities, and Kathy O'Kelley in her individual and official capacities was filed with the Clerk via the CM/ECF system which will send notification of filing to the following:

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